

The author pertinently remarks that the recent war has turned what was considered the extravaganza of a small group on the periphery of "respectable medicine" into a much more widely accepted body of knowledge held valid by many in the social sciences and by many in the younger generation of physicians. However, another danger is arising with increasing acceptance—a lip-service reception of a total psychosomatic approach without foundation in deeper experience. Healthy changes appear to be happening to certain psychoanalytic concepts. Instead of an attitude of too rigid acceptance of older doctrine, analysts are broadening their conceptions of the variety of instinctive needs and drives in human personality, so that one hears increasingly about aggression, hostility, dependence, security, insecurity, anxiety, etc., instead of jamming every new experience into a pan-sexual theory. Certainly "fear of loss of love and security" is more easily comprehensible than the controversial "castration fear," for example.

Since the author adheres primarily to Freudian concepts, his therapeutic method utilizes free association, the interpretation of resistance, the examination of dreams, and the interpretation of the transference with particular emphasis on the tracing out of symptoms to their origin, at all times recognizing the emotional quality of the symptom.

The psychopathology of anxiety states, phobias, obsessional states, hysteria, sexual maladjustments, sexual perversions and drug addictions are taken up in turn. There are many case reports culled from the author's personal experience to exemplify his basic themes. In general, these are well chosen; if one does not always see clearly the reasons for a particular interpretation, this may be because the author is unable in a limited space to present all the facts.

In the final chapter three basic early biological needs of the human organism are described: a self-preservation tendency (infantile fear lies at the root of repression and emotional security is the essence of adjustment) a sexual tendency (Freud's libido), and aggressiveness. The mechanistic approach to human problems misses all that is essential, the author states. "The time is not now so far distant when the corpus of Medicine will once again achieve its own 'psychosomatic' unity. All around Medicine the social sciences are converging towards an integration under the primacy of psychodynamic concepts. Unless Medicine catches up with this movement it will find itself in a backwater, grappling with problems that bear but little relationship to the urgent needs of our time."

The psychoanalytically oriented physician will find much with which he can agree and sympathize here; the "constitutionally" oriented physician will consider much of the contents "wild flights of fancy," but whatever his theoretical prejudices, he will find the presentation sincere and stimulating.

SUBACUTE BACTERIAL ENDOCARDITIS. By Emanuel Libman, M.D., Late Consulting Physician, The Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, and Charles K. Friedberg, M.D., Adjunct Physician, the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City. Edited by Henry A. Christian, A.M., M.D., Hersey Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, Emeritus, Harvard University. (Reprinted from Oxford Loose-Leaf Medicine with the same page numbers as in that work) Oxford University Press, New York, Second Edition, 1948. \$3.50.

No one could be better fitted to write on subacute bacterial endocarditis than Dr. Libman, who grew up on the subject and contributed so much original work to the understanding of it. Being a textbook article, this little monograph is difficult to review. The subject is taken up systematically, and now, with Dr. Friedberg, is brought fully up to date so that the more recent spectacular developments of penicillin therapy are taken up in detail. There are numerous illustrations, a bibliography, and an index.

FOUNDATIONS OF NEUROPSYCHIATRY. By Stanley Cobb, A.B., M.D., fourth edition. Baltimore, The Williams & Wilkins Company, 1948. \$2.50.

The fourth edition of this book shows very few important changes over the third edition. Certain parts dealing with cerebral blood flow, the types of neurons in the autonomic system and the motor areas of the cerebral cortex, have been largely rewritten.

The author clings to the term "neuropsychiatry," which many are now discarding. It is perhaps unimportant to quibble over this term, but as has been pointed out, the prefix "neuro" would make the term mean neurological psychiatry rather than neurology and psychiatry. The author's concept is that to understand both neurology and psychiatry, one must grasp certain fundamental anatomical and physiological facts about the central nervous system. This material is given in a very clear and distinct fashion and can be highly recommended.

The author then passes over to the "mind-body" problem and tries to clarify this difficult point. He argues for Jelliffe's concept of reversible and irreversible organic changes, rather than the concept of organic and functional as two different things.

The chapter on cerebral circulation is excellent and this is due, in part, to the author's own research work on this problem.

Neuropathology is next discussed, followed by a brief discussion of epilepsy. This takes four-fifths of the book and the other fifth is devoted to two chapters: "Some psychological concepts important in medicine" and "Psychopathology." The approach here is biological and, as far as it goes, there is a considerable amount of interesting material given.

In discussing psychopathology, the author states his preference for Meyer's concept of reaction types. He also follows Meyer in being a pluralist, and in trying to see in every case the various factors which bring about an abnormal reaction, rather than accepting the concept of a single precipitating factor.

The book can be recommended for general use by medical students. The biological basis of behavior is developed in as clear and simple a fashion as it is possible to do, and in highly controversial fields of schizophrenia and manic-depressive psychosis, the author quite properly insists on how little is known on the fundamental nature of these disorders, rather than giving a glib explanation, which might satisfy the student and lead him to think that these disorders really were understood.

Therefore, the book can be highly recommended for its purpose, which is to give the medical student some correlation between neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and the general behavior of human beings.

PSYCHOLOGICAL ATLAS. By David Katz, University of Stockholm, with 400 illustrations. The Philosophical Library, New York.

This heterogeneous collection of illustrations, accompanied by brief explanatory notes, might conceivably be of value to the psychologist. Those illustrations falling within the field of interest of the reviewer are generally of poor quality; certainly better ones are available to anyone having access to a medical library. This compilation cannot be recommended to the physician.

INTERESTING AND USEFUL MEDICAL STATISTICS. Edited by William H. Kupper, M.D. Wm. C. Brown Company Publishers, Dubuque, Iowa. \$6.50.

Unless one has a great appetite for tabular statistics *per se*, there is little of value in this book. It is a hodgepodge of unrelated tables on therapy, diagnosis, morbidity, mortality, lifted from their context, which destroys some of their value, and reprinted from various well-known texts and periodicals.